



OAKHAM

Worcester County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

Secluded in the gently rolling hills of northwest Worcester County, the heart of the Commonwealth, the picturesque Town of Oakham has preserved its rural/agricultural and tranquil atmosphere since 1762. Since no major highways pass through the town nor is there any large commercial development, the town maintains a quaint and unique flavor. The center, which consists of the town hall, a field stone library, church and small circular common, has not changed since the turn of the century. The highest point in Oakham is located at the top of Maple Street, the main street, and rises to a height of approximately 1,200 feet above sea level. The town is located in the watershed area of the Quabbin Reservoir and approximately 30% of the land is owned by the MDC.

Oakham's distance from major cities permits the residents to keep their independent and self-sufficient nature. Small family businesses serve the community's immediate needs and the town depends heavily on its volunteers and part-time employees to ensure the success of its programs and projects.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Central Massachusetts, bordered by Rutland and Paxton on the east, Spencer on the south, New Braintree on the southeast, and Barre on the northwest. Oakham is 18 miles west of Worcester, 56 miles west of Boston, and 177 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 21.53 sq. miles

Land Area: 21.12 sq. miles

Population: 1,503

Density: 71 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Barre Falls Dam Station)

Normal temperature in January.....20.0°F

Normal temperature in July.....67.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....42.1"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

North Brookfield, Barre, Paxton

Regional Planning Agency

Central Massachusetts

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Worcester



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 882-5549

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1762

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	909		
Democrats	153	16.8	%
Republicans	120	13.2	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	636	70.0	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Oakham town, Worcester County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	1,673	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	1,673	100.0
Male.....	838	50.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	17	1.0
Female.....	835	49.9	Mexican.....	1	0.1
Under 5 years.....	91	5.4	Puerto Rican.....	10	0.6
5 to 9 years.....	148	8.8	Cuban.....	1	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	170	10.2	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	5	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	125	7.5	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	1,656	99.0
20 to 24 years.....	63	3.8	White alone.....	1,631	97.5
25 to 34 years.....	148	8.8	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	338	20.2	Total population.....	1,673	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	343	20.5	In households.....	1,673	100.0
55 to 59 years.....	77	4.6	Householder.....	578	34.5
60 to 64 years.....	40	2.4	Spouse.....	413	24.7
65 to 74 years.....	72	4.3	Child.....	593	35.4
75 to 84 years.....	46	2.7	Own child under 18 years.....	469	28.0
85 years and over.....	12	0.7	Other relatives.....	42	2.5
Median age (years).....	38.1	(X)	Under 18 years.....	19	1.1
18 years and over.....	1,177	70.4	Nonrelatives.....	47	2.8
Male.....	588	35.1	Unmarried partner.....	25	1.5
Female.....	589	35.2	In group quarters.....	-	-
21 years and over.....	1,121	67.0	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	149	8.9	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	130	7.8	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	66	3.9	Total households.....	578	100.0
Female.....	64	3.8	Family households (families).....	467	80.8
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	240	41.5
One race.....	1,667	99.6	Married-couple family.....	413	71.5
White.....	1,645	98.3	With own children under 18 years.....	207	35.8
Black or African American.....	6	0.4	Female householder, no husband present.....	37	6.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	2	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	24	4.2
Asian.....	10	0.6	Nonfamily households.....	111	19.2
Asian Indian.....	3	0.2	Householder living alone.....	85	14.7
Chinese.....	1	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	30	5.2
Filipino.....	2	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	253	43.8
Japanese.....	2	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	95	16.4
Korean.....	2	0.1	Average household size.....	2.89	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	3.24	(X)
Other Asian ¹	-	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	591	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	578	97.8
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	13	2.2
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	8	1.4
Some other race.....	4	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.7	(X)
Two or more races.....	6	0.4	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	-	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	578	100.0
White.....	1,650	98.6	Owner-occupied housing units.....	531	91.9
Black or African American.....	9	0.5	Renter-occupied housing units.....	47	8.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	4	0.2	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.93	(X)
Asian.....	11	0.7	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.45	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	0.1			
Some other race.....	4	0.2			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	0
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	0
Federal (Section 8):	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Located in the Worcester area, which has three major cross-state highways: the Worcester Turnpike (Route 9), Route 20, and the Massachusetts Turnpike. I-495 borders to the east, I-190 links to the Fitchburg-Leominster area, I-84 and I-395 connect to Connecticut and points south. The region is well connected by rail and highway to the ports, airports, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 67, which runs N-S just west of the Oakham town border, and State Route 122.

Rail

There is no passenger or freight rail service through Oakham, but the network of intermodal facilities serving central and eastern Massachusetts is easily accessible.

Bus

Oakham is not affiliated with any regional transportation authority.

Other

The Worcester Municipal Airport, a Primary Commercial (PR) facility with scheduled passenger service, is accessible from Oakham. It has 2 asphalt runways 5,500' and 6,999' long. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.